



Weather
Mostly cloudy

High 38° | Low 33°

Three-day forecast, Page 2A

Michigan State University's independent voice | www.stateneews.com | East Lansing, Mich. | Monday, November 30, 2009

Mich. hate crimes decrease; experts weary of numbers

CAMPUS-CITY, PAGE 3A

Mac's Bar hosts bands on Black Friday; some from state

FEATURES, PAGE 8A

1999 football team produces many NFL stars, family spirit

SPORTS, PAGE 1B

CRIME

IOTA PHI THETA BLAMES PLAYERS FOR RATHER HALL ALTERCATION

By Kate Jacobson
THE STATE NEWS

Members of Iota Phi Theta, the fraternity involved in a Nov. 22 assault in Rather Hall, formally stated members of the MSU football team were involved in the assault, although university officials and MSU police have not confirmed this.

Last week, two players were dismissed from the football team following reports of the incident.

A statement issued late last week by the 2nd national fraternity, which is based in Baltimore, said members of the MSU football team were involved with an incident at The Small Planet, 16800 Chandler Road, and the assault in Rather Hall. It said the fraternity is appalled by the actions of the football players.

Members of the fraternity said they were attacked in Rather Hall after a Nov. 22 event. They also said a fight broke out Nov. 21 at an after-party event hosted by the fraternity at The Small Planet. Mike Krueger, general manager of The Small Planet, said security shut down the event after several people got into a fight on the dance floor.

The statement did not identify the football players involved in the incidents.

University spokesman Terry Denbow said no charges have been filed against any members of the football team or anyone else as of Sunday. MSU police referred all questions to Denbow.

Denbow said if and when charges are made, the university would not comment on the involvement of those charged based on affiliation to a group on campus, such as the football team.

The fraternity's statement also said the fraternity was disappointed one of the reported assaults was able to return to MSU after assaulting an MSU hockey player.

Sophomore running back Glenn Winston was charged with assaulting MSU hockey player junior defenseman A.J. Sturges in an Oct. 19, 2008, fight. The fight resulted in Sturges' hospitalization and Winston sentenced to 180 days in jail. MSU head

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Icers winless in past 4 games



Freshman right wing Kevin Walrod (18) and freshman left wing Dean Chelios look on as Wisconsin right wing Craig Smith skates away with the puck during MSU's 7-3 loss Friday night at Munn Ice Arena. Combined, Chelios and Walrod only totaled one shot on goal.

"We got it handed to us. (Wisconsin is) a very good team. That's probably the toughest game we've had all year, as far as playing against speed."

Rick Comley, head coach

By Alex DiFilippo
THE STATE NEWS

Road bumps were bound to materialize in the No. 8 MSU hockey team's season. With the Spartans starting 14 underclassmen in each game, MSU head coach Rick Comley said this season's red-hot start, in which the Spartans went 9-2-2, eventually would hit a wall.

And after being unbeaten for a nation-high eight games, the Spartans now are winless in their last four, which includes two losses this weekend in the 17th annual College Hockey Showcase at Munn Ice

Arena — a 7-3 stomping by No. 15 Wisconsin on Friday followed by a narrow 2-1 loss to Minnesota on Saturday.

"At 9-2-2, you are going, 'Wow,' but you had to be careful," Comley said. "The first to games were super, and the next 10 games are much more difficult and we are fighting our way through that. Young kids are going to be up and down."

MSU hasn't won a Showcase game since 2004, and Wisconsin and Minnesota hold lengthy unbeaten streaks against MSU, at 4-0-1 and 4-0-5, respectively.

After the Spartans played what Com-

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COURT

FRESHMAN TO FACE 5-YEAR CHARGE FOR EXPLOSIVE

By Brittany Shammass
THE STATE NEWS

It started as a plan dreamed up Nov. 1 by two freshmen to smash pumpkins in a friend's yard as a Halloween prank.

But the prank, which developed into the idea of igniting a firework in that friend's yard, led to four arrests and charges that carried a penalty of up to 20 years in prison.

One of the students involved, political science and pre-law freshman Nikolai Wasielewski, now faces a maximum of five years in prison for amended charges of conspiracy and accomplice after the fact, Assistant Ingham County Prosecutor Diane Smith said. A hearing was held Wednesday in East Lansing's 54-B District Court to determine if Wasielewski, a Roseford, Ohio, resident, should face trial for the amended charges.

"We were just bored Sunday night after Halloween, sitting in our dorm room," economist freshman Darby Dudley testified during the hearing. "We wanted to do something fun. It started with pumpkins and then it was, 'alright, let's get some fireworks.'"

Dudley and premedical freshman Olivia Hudson, who both were charged in connection with the incident, texted and called friends to join in on the prank. Wasielewski and communicative sciences and disorders freshman Sasha Savage, who also was charged, agreed to come along.

Dudley said during the hearing she selected three fireworks left from the fourth of July from her house. She said she threw a golfball-sized mortar — called "every dangerous" by Michigan State Police bomb technician Scott Hasse — out of the window of her mother's white Cadillac and into friend Eric Flayley's Grove Street yard.

Hudson drove and Wasielewski watched from the backseat, Dudley said. She said she did not know what the fireworks would do.

Dudley, Hudson and Savage said in court they plan to plead guilty to misdemeanor charges and will face probation and community service and no jail time.

Wasielewski's attorney, Mike Nichols, argued Wasielewski was "just along for the ride." Hudson and Dudley would have done the prank regardless of whether Wasielewski came along, Nich-

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UNIVERSITY

Construction, maintenance projects to be postponed

By Meredith Skrzypczak
THE STATE NEWS

Millions of dollars in construction and maintenance projects will be put on hold this year as the university generates reserves to prepare for future fiscal struggles.

"We may have a significant failure somewhere, and we're just going to have to scramble and figure it out," said Kathy Lindahl, MSU's assistant vice president for finance and operations.

Vice President for Finance and Operations Fred Poston announced the changes to university operations at the MSU Board of Trustees meeting Oct. 30, in addition to possible academic cuts announced by MSU Provost Kim Wilcox. The delays in construction and maintenance projects were some of them.

"It's not the case we're not fixing anything," Poston said. "It's only the stuff we could wait on... We're fixing what we absolutely have to."

Gus Gosselin, director of building services, said the university tries to keep things running for as long as possible before making repairs.

"We replace stuff just before (it) breaks down," he said. "Therefore, they're just in time — we replace it just in time."

MSU typically has about \$20 million per year for "just-in-time" projects such as those

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SCIENCE

MSU takes part in big bang research

By Zae McMillin
THE STATE NEWS

Billions of years after it created the universe, the cataclysmic event known as the big bang might be making another appearance in 2010.

This time, however, MSU researchers will have a front-row seat as particles of cosmic make-up smash together in a more local setting: the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator, the Large Hadron Collider, or

LHC, near Geneva, Switzerland. More than a year after a malfunction between two gigantic magnets crippled the LHC, located at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, the accelerator roared back to life.

The LHC will continue to gain momentum in the coming weeks as a team of MSU engineers, professors and graduate students await information from the collider, which is designed to recreate conditions similar to those im-

mediately following the big bang. "So far, the LHC team has surprised the (experimenters) by how far they got in just the few days since we started again," wrote Reiner Hauser, an MSU research professor currently stationed at CERN, in an e-mail. "Overall, there's quite some excitement that this time we will actually run as planned and take some data."

MSU's main role at CERN

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To see more photos from the College Hockey Showcase, visit stateneews.com/gallery.